



Security Council

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Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1572 (2004) concerning Côte d'Ivoire

Summary record of the 2nd meeting (closed)

Held at Headquarters, New York, on Wednesday, 26 January 2005, at 3 p.m.

Chairman: Mr. Vassilakis (Greece)

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The meeting was called to order at 3.10 p.m.

Adoption of the agenda

1. *The agenda was adopted.*

Introduction by the Chairman

2. **The Chairman**, expressing appreciation to the members of the Committee for electing him, said that the meeting had been convened to take stock of the work of the Committee since its establishment in 2004 and to outline and seek the views of members on the activities for 2005.

3. The Committee had announced, in press release SC/8261 of 6 December 2004, that it had begun its work and might be called upon to oversee the arms embargo, travel ban and assets freeze referred to in Security Council resolution 1572 (2004). As those responsibilities had since been confirmed, it must draw up and make publicly available a list of individuals and entities subject to those measures. The Committee had also issued a note verbale reminding all Member States of their obligations under Council resolution 1572 (2004) and inviting them to provide information to be considered by the Committee. He had sent personalized letters with a similar content to the Permanent Representatives of all States members of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).

4. During informal consultations held on 16 December 2004, the Committee had made substantial progress in preparing draft guidelines for the conduct of its work, in accordance with paragraph 14 (e) of resolution 1572 (2004). Further informal consultations would be convened to continue work on that document.

5. On 17 January 2005, the Secretary-General had informed the President of the Security Council that he intended to make available to the Committee the confidential annex to the report of the United Nations International Commission of Inquiry into allegations of serious violations of human rights and international humanitarian law in Côte d'Ivoire. The annex contained the names of alleged perpetrators of such violations. Members of the Committee could make an appointment with the Secretary of the Committee to consult the annex. He invited the Committee to consider the procedure to be used for establishing the initial list of individuals and entities subject to the

travel ban and assets freeze, taking into account recent Security Council discussions of that issue.

6. **Mr. Hillman** (United States of America) said that the Committee must give priority to establishing guidelines for the implementation of the resolution. He supported the Chairman's suggestion to convene informal consultations to advance and conclude that work. The draft guidelines already indicated a procedure for adding names to or removing names from the travel ban and assets freeze list. Once the guidelines had been finalized, the Committee should turn its attention to the list, taking into account the situation on the ground in Côte d'Ivoire.

7. The Committee must also take into account the draft resolution under consideration in the Security Council. If adopted, it would entail the appointment of a panel of experts and, therefore, additional decision-making for the Committee.

8. **Mr. Ozawa** (Japan) said that the most important task for the Committee was to send a clear message that it was in operation and planning future action.

9. **Mr. Shen Bo** (China) concurred with the United States representative's view of the priorities for the Committee, which must build on its previous accomplishments, resolve any remaining disagreements and finalize the guidelines for implementation of the measures set out in the resolution.

10. With regard to the travel ban and assets freeze, he recalled the recent comments of the Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Mr. Annabi, and urged the Committee to take account of the African Union's view that imposing immediate sanctions against individuals and entities might undermine President Mbeki's ongoing good-offices efforts.

11. In connection with the information provided by the Chairman that the annex to the report of the International Commission of Inquiry was available for consultation, he wondered when the report itself would be available in all official languages. Because it currently existed only in French, the Committee could not discuss it in depth.

12. **Ms. Howe-Jones** (United Kingdom) said that in providing for sanctions, the Security Council was in fact seeking to support the peace process in Côte d'Ivoire, including the efforts of President Mbeki. She

hoped that the proposed resolution reinforcing the arms embargo would be adopted soon.

13. She agreed with the representative of Japan that the Committee must be seen to be making progress. It must finalize the guidelines for implementing Council resolution 1572 (2004) and consider the travel ban and assets freeze list.

14. **Mr. Serman** (France) said that the role of the Committee was to support the peace process, including the efforts of the African Union and President Mbeki. It must send a clear message to all Ivorian parties that it was functioning and was monitoring the situation.

15. He wondered if he had correctly understood the view of the United States representative as being that the Committee must adopt the guidelines before it could turn to the matter of the travel ban and assets freeze list.

16. Finally, he hoped that the report of the International Commission of Inquiry would soon be available in all official languages of the Organization.

17. **Mr. Hillman** (United States of America), clarifying his earlier statement, said that it was desirable, although not vital, for the Committee to finalize the guidelines before turning to the travel ban and assets freeze list. In his view, the guidelines would give Member States a clearer idea of how to consider names for inclusion or deletion, in a similar way to the procedures existing in other Security Council sanctions committees.

18. **Mr. Sitnikov** (Russian Federation) said that his delegation concurred with the representative of China that the Committee must take as its point of departure the situation on the ground in Côte d'Ivoire, including the efforts of the African Union and President Mbeki. The Ivorian parties must be given the opportunity to fulfil their commitments.

19. He, too, hoped that the report of the International Commission of Inquiry would soon be available in all official languages of the Organization.

20. **Ms. Machon** (Denmark) said that the meeting was well timed, as the Security Council was considering the situation in Côte d'Ivoire and contemplating a further resolution in that connection. Although little progress had been made, despite the efforts of the African Union and President Mbeki, pressure must be maintained on all parties.

21. Although the report of the International Commission of Inquiry was not yet available in all official languages of the Organization, it did contain a list of names which might form the basis of a travel ban and assets freeze list. The Committee must take action on that matter.

22. **The Chairman**, summarizing the discussion, said that the Committee did indeed exist to support the peace process, including the efforts of the African Union and President Mbeki. While it must therefore try not to undermine the work under way, there was no reason for its momentum to be interrupted. Security Council resolution 1572 (2004) clearly set out the responsibilities of the Committee with regard to the travel ban and assets freeze, so it must proceed with caution, but proceed nonetheless.

23. Noting the request of several delegations for the report of the International Commission of Inquiry to be made available in all official languages of the Organization, he said that he would try to ensure that that was done.

The meeting rose at 3.45 p.m.